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18 April 1974

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INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: SIGINT Reporting Decrements

1. NSA [] (SIGINT Requirements) hosted a meeting 16 April 1974 to discuss the issuance of a message which will outline reporting changes expected as a result of manpower reductions imposed by DepSecDef. The meeting was attended by representatives from State, DIA, CIA, as well as myself.

2. It is expected that a message similar to the attached draft will be released in the near future. From past experience, I would anticipate that SIGINT report recipients will again rise up in arms over the reports proposed for decrement.

3. It was pointed out that this meeting should set the example for more dialogue between NSA and SIGINT customers on subjects of this nature. It was also made clear that future decrements should be handled by looking at the total problem rather than on a piece-meal basis, as was attempted with Cuba.

4. I advised [] NSA [] that the message should not be sent to all customers as in the past. I recommended DIA, CIA, State, Treas. and DCI/IC as the only addressees. This would permit each agency to operate within existing procedures for obtaining comments on requirements and reporting impacts for the subject areas under consideration. Most significantly, it would permit DIA to exercise its role in the DoD arena, i. e., advise the CINCS, Military Departments and DoD elements of the proposed decrements and consolidate the impacts rather than have all respond to NSA.

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5. Since the proposed decrements will elicit howls from all quarters, it is my opinion and I will recommend, when the message is received, that the action be referred to the SIGINT Committee with a reasonable response date, for review and recommendations. We are now at the point where all customers, as well as collectors and producers must get down to the essential.

/s/

[REDACTED]
LTC, USA

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DCI/IC/MPRRG: [REDACTED]:cld

Distribution:

- Copy # 1 - [REDACTED]
2 - [REDACTED]
3 - CPAG
4 - PRG
5 - IC Registry
6 - MPRRG Reading
7 - MPRRG Subject
8 - FSP chrono

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Approved For Release 2004/04/13 : CIA-RDP80M01082A000400110006-4

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